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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/579,488	02/08/2007	Xiang Xu	A4-257 US	3033

7590
Stephen Z. Weiss
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EXAMINER

TSUKERMAN, LARISA Z

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2833

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03/18/2008

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/579,488	Applicant(s) XU, XIANG	
	Examiner LARISA Z. TSUKERMAN	Art Unit 2833	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,10,11 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 3-9 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 16 May 2006 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____. | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____. |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

Claim 1 is objected to because of the following informalities: claim 1 recites the limitation "the housing" in line 18. Also, should "housing" be change to - sleeve- -? There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claim 1, 2, 10 and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Theve (3416125).

In regard to claim 1, Theve discloses an electrical terminal 10, comprising: a first contact member 14 having an outer pressure contacting end portion 22, 24 for pressure engaging a first electrical device (not shown) and an enlarged inner end portion 20; a second contact member 16 having an outer pressure contacting end portion 32, 30, 28 for pressure engaging a second electrical device (not shown) and an enlarged inner end portion 34; a sleeve 12 including a through hole (not marked) for slidably receiving the inner end portions (20, 38 and 34, 40) of the first and second contact members 14 and 16, the through hole having a first open end 26 through which the pressure contacting

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end portion 22, 24 of the first contact member 14 projects and a second open end (not marked, see area 36) through which the pressure contacting end portion 30, 32, 28 of the second contact member 16 projects, and restricted stop means 25 and 36 at the first and second open ends of the through hole for abutting the enlarged inner end portions 20 and 34 of the contact members 14 and 16 to define outer limit positions of the pressure contacting end portions of the contact members; and a biasing member 18 in the through hole of the housing to resiliently bias the contact members in opposite directions, the biasing member 18 being in a relaxed condition when the pressure contacting end portions of the contact members are out of pressure engagement with the electrical devices, whereby one of the contact members can be retracted substantially into the through hole to thereby reduce the distance between distal ends of the pressure contacting end portions of the contact members.

It has been held that a recitation with respect to the manner in which a claimed apparatus is intended to be employed does not differentiate the claimed apparatus from a prior art apparatus satisfying the claimed structural limitations and performing the same function that is in the instant application, one of the contact members can be retracted substantially into the through hole to thereby reduce the distance between distal ends of the pressure contacting end portions of the contact members.

In regard to claim 2, Theve discloses that restricted stops 25 and 36 comprise inwardly turned flanges (see Fig.1) of the sleeve 12 at the first and second open ends thereof.

In regard to claim 10, Theve discloses that the biasing member 18 comprises a coil spring having opposite ends engageable with the enlarged inner end portions 20 and 34 of the contact members 14 and 16.

In regard to claim 11, Theve discloses that the outer pressure contacting end portion 22 of one of the contact members 14 is shorter than the outer pressure contacting end portion 30, 28 of the other contact member 16.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 3-9 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

In regard to claim 3, patentability resides, at least in part, in the sleeve that includes an inner tube surrounded by an outer tube, with the contact members being reciprocally slidably mounted in opposite ends of the inner tube, in combination with the other limitations of the base claim.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to LARISA Z. TSUKERMAN whose telephone number is (571)272-2015. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 8:30 am to 5:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Paula A. Bradley can be reached on (571)-272-2800 ex. 33. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

LT, 03/04/2008

/Brigitte R. Hammond/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2833

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